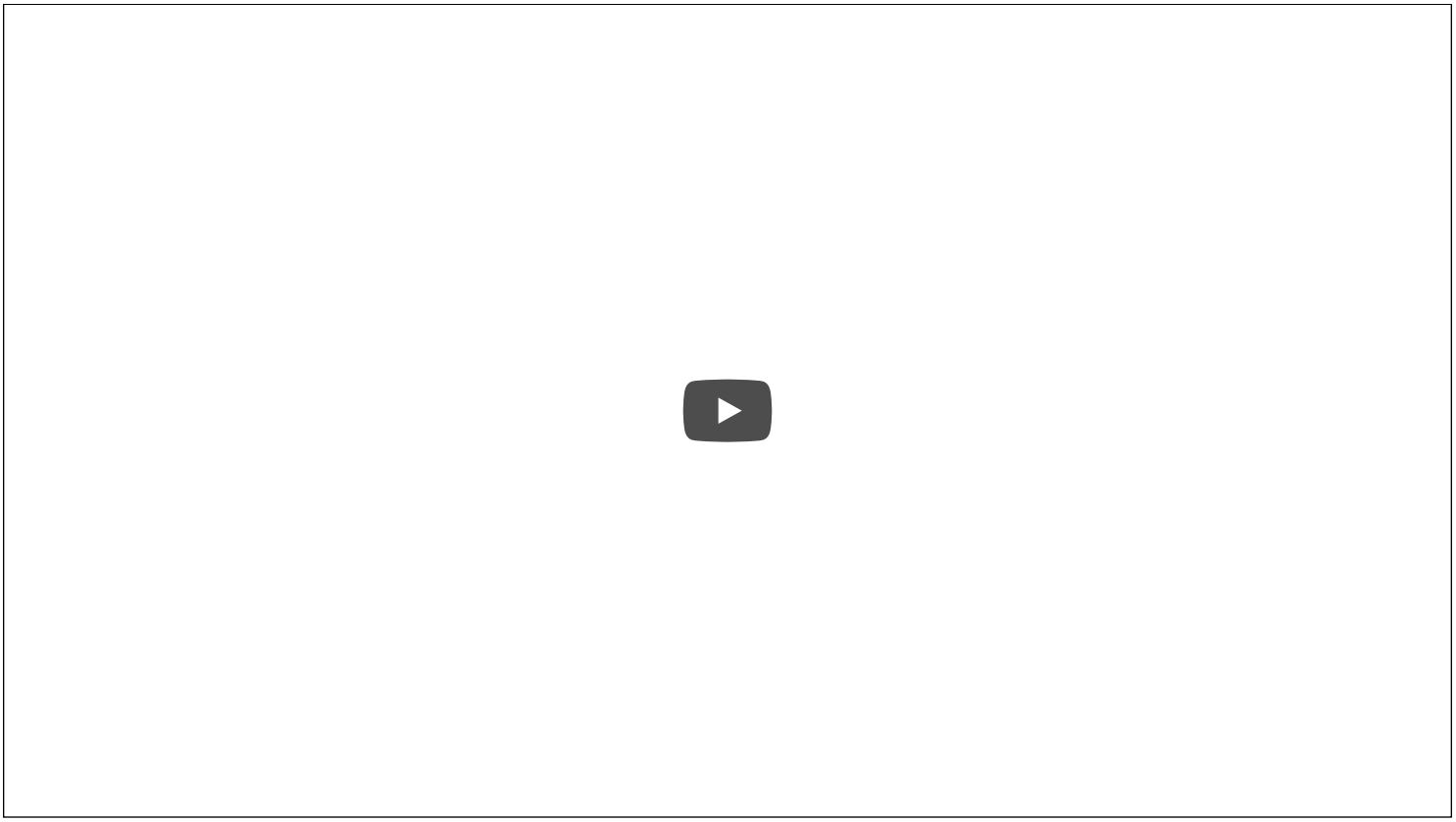

The Great British Honey Scandal | The Observer

The Observer UK
28.7K subscribers

Subscribe
14K
Share
Download
Save

663,493 views Oct 16, 2025

Reporter Jon Ungoed-Thomas has been investigating fake honey for The Observer for around 10 years. The runny, squeezy, golden liquid you see on supermarket shelves isn't what you think it is. We have been inundated in the UK with fraudulent honey - a blend of sometimes real bee-made honey mixed with sugary syrups. But due to lack of tests available and the funding for them, it's very hard for anyone to tell what's real honey and what's fake.

Listen to Jon Ungoed-Thomas's full podcast here: https://observer.co.uk/listen/the-slo... or read more here: https://observer.co.uk/news/national/...

Read more of our original journalism https://observer.co.uk/

How this was made

Auto-dubbed
Audio tracks for some languages were automatically generated. Learn more

Transcript

Follow along using the transcript.

Show transcript

The Observer UK
28.7K subscribers

Videos
About
Twitter
Instagram

Show less

9:13

WATCH: Furious Irish BATTERED by police as locals chant 'get migrants OUT' after SHOCKING …

GBNews

174K views · 5 hours ago

New

6:54

Oil supply to exceed demand by almost 4 million barrels per day: IEA

BNN Bloomberg

48K views · 7 days ago

9:17

The Real Risk of Digital ID | The West Report

The West Report

39K views · 8 days ago

23:12

China Is Using Gold To Replace the U.S. Dollar

Andrei Jikh

1M views · 2 days ago

New

6:16

Furtuna financiară a început și vine tot din bănci

Gheorghe Piperea

22K views · 5 days ago

New

15:14

10 Plants You Should NEVER Grow in Your Garden!

Gardening Time

322K views · 1 month ago

9:37

EPIC Compilation Of All Bill Gates' COVID Lies! w/ Dr. John Campbell

The Jimmy Dore Show

27K views · 2 days ago

New

8:19

Cartelul de la București

G4 Media

2K views · 12 hours ago

New

36:51

Prof. Corvin Lupu, despre pacea din Gaza: "S-a făcut la cererea lui Trump, dar nu cred că va ține"

Cancan

9.2K views · 8 days ago

19:28

Explozia blocului din Rahova. Poliția confirmă o fisură pe conducta de gaze: N-am mai văzut așa …

Observator News

35K views · 8 hours ago

New

3:12

Sarkozy Waves Goodbye While Leaving For Prison, Supporters Say 'Not A Criminal' | N18G | 4K

moneycontrol

2.2K views · 1 day ago

New

35:18

Prof.Corvin Lupu: "SUA și-au diminuat sfera de influență. Mai stăpânesc doar 1 miliard de …

Cancan

8.2K views · 8 days ago

6:12

Neo-Marxism in Romania promoted with public money. Propaganda pushed on Romanians from ...

Emil Cosman

10K views • 1 day ago

New

12:10

Alone on one of the most famous Beaches in the world

Fish Huntress Amy

34K views • 1 month ago

11:16

They left thousands of sheep to starve on a barren island... and what happened next shocked ...

WHATDOC

433K views • 3 weeks ago

3:12

Ce au făcut autoritățile atunci când blocurile au sărit în aer, în țară

Antena 3 CNN

558 views • 2 hours ago

New

10:52

„Războiul s-a terminat”/ Stan: Zelenski n-a înțeles nici acum că nu poate să se întâlnească cu Putin

Gândul

33K views • 1 day ago

New

1:25:48

Get Ready For Real Suspense! The Thriller That Took YouTube By Storm! | CIVILITY | Full Movie

Kinopower

116K views • 8 days ago

8:02

WAR, THEFT, LIES: Brussels STEALS $300 Billion in Russian Assets as Global Trust in EU Fades

World Affairs In Context

52K views • 7 hours ago

New

18:17

Something's Going Seriously Wrong in France

The Invisible Hand

398K views • 3 days ago

New

Show more

3,464 Comments

Sort by

Add a comment...

@saradh3385 4 days ago

Supermarket honey needs to be labelled "honey flavour syrup" by law so we know what we're getting.

3.3K Reply

75 replies

@TheOneAndOnlyLewis 4 days ago

They should not legally be allowed to call it honey. They are lying, labeling needs to change

4K Reply

106 replies

@Arcaryon 3 days ago

I don’t mind buying a product that’s not the real deal if I could make an informed decision. But being lied to is unacceptable.

@Devonhoneyandcandles 5 days ago (edited)
I am a Devon beekeeper, I only sell pure cold filtered honey from my own hives, if you want good honey, its best to buy from a local beekeeper.

2.7K Reply

83 replies

@googlymoogly9884 4 days ago (edited)
I'm a Yorkshire beekeeper and it's so good to see this getting attention again. I sell my honey for £6 a jar to friends and neighbours and I quite often have this talk with them about fake honey. They all come back for more saying exactly the same thing that there's a world of difference to the taste. If you eat honey for its nutritional benefits steer well clear of supermarkets.

656 Reply

30 replies

@Segundo_Grande 3 days ago
This isn't just British scandal. It's a global thing. Majority of honey on the market is fske, one way or another.

114 Reply

lies

@cherelled6419 4 days ago
All honey in the supermarket are labelled as 100% honey!! This shouldn't be allowed.

1K Reply

77 replies

@goodlookinouthomie1757 4 days ago
Half the food sold in supermarkets is suspicious.

939 Reply

58 replies

@barrywalford8533 2 days ago
To add insult to injury, supermarket jars of honey are now in smaller quantities for the same price. Shrinkflation added to adulteration.

16 Reply

@sailingmrnice 4 days ago
Don't buy honey in the supermarket. Find a beekeeper.

678 Reply

23 replies

@robertpalfalvy8348 4 days ago
If you see on the label: mixed with non EU honey then don't buy it.

287 Reply

14 replies

@HenryStaals 3 days ago
Our government is supposed to protect us from scams like this

123 Reply

16 replies

@jennyleigh8891 6 days ago
I pay around £6-£7 for a 1lb jar of honey from local beekeepers. I'm always amazed at how cheap supermarket honey is - and now I know why!

955 Reply

35 replies

@6Twisted 4 days ago (edited)
This is what the government should be dealing with, not blocking half of the internet.

616 Reply